

ciated with activation of the second microphone, and a third illuminated state is associated with activation of the third microphone.

[0177] In some examples, the plurality of illuminated states correspond to different colors.

[0178] Some examples involves maintaining a state of the interior visual indicator in an illuminated state while the state of the interior visual indicator is concealed.

[0179] In some examples, the microphone circuit is configured to control the interior visual indicator to illuminate when the microphone circuit is activated.

[0180] In some examples, the microphone circuit is configured to control the interior visual indicator to illuminate when power supply current flows into the microphone circuit.

IV. Conclusion

[0181] The above discussions relating to portable playback devices, playback devices, control devices, playback zone configurations, and media content sources provide only some examples of operating environments within which functions and methods described below may be implemented. Other operating environments and configurations of media playback systems, playback devices, and network devices not explicitly described herein may also be applicable and suitable for implementation of the functions and methods.

[0182] The description above discloses, among other things, various example systems, methods, apparatus, and articles of manufacture including, among other components, firmware and/or software executed on hardware. It is understood that such examples are merely illustrative and should not be considered as limiting. For example, it is contemplated that any or all of the firmware, hardware, and/or software aspects or components can be embodied exclusively in hardware, exclusively in software, exclusively in firmware, or in any combination of hardware, software, and/or firmware. Accordingly, the examples provided are not the only ways) to implement such systems, methods, apparatus, and/or articles of manufacture.

[0183] Additionally, references herein to “embodiment” means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment can be included in at least one example embodiment of an invention. The appearances of this phrase in various places in the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment, nor are separate or alternative embodiments mutually exclusive of other embodiments. As such, the embodiments described herein, explicitly and implicitly understood by one skilled in the art, can be combined with other embodiments.

[0184] The specification is presented largely in terms of illustrative environments, systems, procedures, steps, logic blocks, processing, and other symbolic representations that directly or indirectly resemble the operations of data processing devices coupled to networks. These process descriptions and representations are typically used by those skilled in the art to most effectively convey the substance of their work to others skilled in the art. Numerous specific details are set forth to provide a thorough understanding of the present disclosure. However, it is understood to those skilled in the art that certain embodiments of the present disclosure can be practiced without certain, specific details. In other instances, well known methods, procedures, components,

and circuitry have not been described in detail to avoid unnecessarily obscuring aspects of the embodiments. Accordingly, the scope of the present disclosure is defined by the appended claims rather than the foregoing description of embodiments.

[0185] When any of the appended claims are read to cover a purely software and/or firmware implementation, at least one of the elements in at least one example is hereby expressly defined to include a tangible, non-transitory medium such as a memory, DVD, CD, Blu-ray, and so on, storing the software and/or firmware.

1. A method performed by a portable playback device comprising:

receiving, via the portable playback device, a power activation indication;

responsive to receiving the power activation indication, supplying power to at least one exterior visual indicator disposed on an outward-facing portion of an earcup of the portable playback device via a first power supply path of the portable playback device;

receiving, via the portable playback device, a microphone activation indication associated with at least one microphone of the portable playback device;

responsive to receiving the microphone activation indication, activating microphone circuitry associated with the at least one microphone; and

illuminating an interior visual indicator disposed within a user-facing surface of the earcup of the portable playback device, wherein the interior visual indicator is positioned such that when the portable playback device is worn by a user, a state of the interior visual indicator is concealed, and when the portable playback device is not worn by the user, a state of the interior visual indicator is visible.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising: supplying power to the exterior visual indicator via a first power supply path; and

wherein activating the microphone circuit further comprises supplying power to the microphone circuit via a second power supply path that is independently operated from the first power supply path.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the microphone activation indication further comprises:

receiving a user actuation via a user interface of the portable playback device to activate the at least one microphone.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving the microphone activation indication further comprises:

receiving a user actuation via a controller in communication with the portable playback device that includes a user interface with user interface elements that facilitate activation of the at least one microphone.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising: subsequent to activation of the microphone circuit, deactivating the microphone circuit after a predetermined period of inactivity of the microphone, wherein when the microphone circuit is deactivated, the interior visual indicator transitions to an unilluminated state.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one microphone is one of a plurality of microphones that comprise: a first microphone arranged on an outside housing of the portable playback devices that is configured to receive ambient noise and facilitate performance of noise cancellation, a second microphone arranged on the outside housing